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D U D L E Y W . K I R K ,

M . B . , C h . B .

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Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer  
to the Education Authority for the  
Borough of Deal.

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BOROUGH OF DEAL

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

November 1938 to November 1939.

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November 1938 to August 1939.

Chairman

Councillor E. H. Adey.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Ken Jones. J.P.

September 1939 to November 1939.

Chairman

Councillor Ken Jones. J.P.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Tudor Davies. J.P.

Members

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman Capt. C. P. Davis, C.C., J.P.)  
(ex-officio)

Alderman R. C. Rowe.

Councillor Dr. G. T. Birdwood.

Councillor Mrs. B. Mantle.

" J. C. Black.

" Miss Gil Martin.

G. Brenchley.

" A. H. Pargeter.

Tudor Davies.

" H. F. W. Paterson.

L. G. L. Denne.

" J. Waller.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

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Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer,

Dudley W. Kirk, M.B., Ch.B.

Senior Sanitary and Foods Inspector,

J. Phil Byng, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary and Foods Inspector,

G. E. Goram, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A. (Appointed 25.7.39)

Assistant Sanitary Inspector,

John. G. Woodruff.

Clerical Assistant.

Geoffrey L. Almond.



BOROUGH OF DEAL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for  
the Year 1939

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Deal.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the  
year 1939.

You will observe the report has been considerably  
abridged in accordance with the request of the Minister of  
Health (in Circular 2067). Notwithstanding, the more  
important vital statistics, vide. zymotic, etc., have been  
compiled in full.

For the purposes of post war records all other  
statistics have been tabulated and form part of a more com-  
prehensive report which has been compiled and filed in the  
Department.

Once again it is gratifying to state, as the  
statistics show, that the high standard of health reached in  
previous years has been continued during 1939.

With the outbreak of hostilities a considerable  
amount of work has been entailed in stabilising the A.R.P.  
Casualty Organisation from its abstract state so as to ensure  
its efficiency and promptitude in action.

I would here like to express my appreciation to the  
Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their  
co-operation and courtesy during the year and commend to you  
the work of the clerical and technical staffs of the Department.

I am grateful, too, for the kind co-operation of the  
Town Clerk, Borough Surveyor, Borough Accountant and their staffs  
given during 1939.



I have the honour of being, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and  
Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. W. KIRK. M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
1a Victoria Road,  
DEAL.

1st November, 1940.





## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### Area.

The area of the Borough is 2,917 acres, exclusive of the foreshore. No alteration in the area has been made since 1935.

### Population.

The population as estimated by the Registrar-General for the mid-year 1939 is -

For the purpose of calculating the Birth Rate 23,140

For the purpose of calculating the Death Rate 23,190

Following the 1931 census each district has been supplied with an adjusting factor for the Death Rate.

The Factor for Deal is ... .. .83

The number of persons actually residing in the Royal Marine Barracks on the 30th June, 1939, was:

Officers, N.C.O.'s, Marines and families ... ..1,102

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938 according to the Rate Books was... ..6,402

The Rateable Value on 31st December, 1939 was £159,978 and the sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..£615

### Social Conditions.

As in previous reports.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

## Live Births.

(For calculating Birth Rate)

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ... ..	361	188	173
Illegitimate... ..	24	16	8

## Live Births.

(For calculating Maternity and Infantile Mortality)

Legitimate ... ..	363	190	173
Illegitimate... ..	24	16	8

Rate per 1,000 of the residential population ... .. 16.64

## Still Births.

Legitimate ... ..	8	5	3
Illegitimate... ..	1	-	1

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births... .. 22.84

Deaths... .. 300 137 163

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the residential population ... .. 12.94

Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of residential population ... .. 10.74

Death from Puerperal Causes,  
Registrar-General's list:

No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	-
No. 30 other Puerperal causes...	1

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births ... .. 2.53

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

Legitimate ... ..	16	9	7
Illegitimate ... ..	-	-	-

All Infants per 1,000 live births 41.34

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births ... .. 44.08

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births ... .. Nil

Deaths from Cancer (All ages) 32 13 19

Deaths from Measles (all ages) - - -

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) - - -

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 1 1 Nil



Set out below are the certified causes of deaths in the Borough during 1939:-

Causes of Death						Male	Female
All Causes ... ..						137	163
1.	Typhoid Fever, etc...	...	...	...	...	-	-
2.	Measles...	...	...	...	...	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	3	-
6.	Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	2	6
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica...	...	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	4	1
10.	Other Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	-	-
11.	Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	1	-
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane	...	...	...	...	-	-
13.	Cancer ...	...	...	...	...	13	19
14.	Diabetes...	...	...	...	...	2	6
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	11	8
16.	Heart Disease...	...	...	...	...	40	53
17.	Aneurysm...	...	...	...	...	-	-
18.	Other Circulatory	...	...	...	...	7	12
19.	Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	7	4
20.	Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	7	5
21.	Other Respiratory	...	...	...	...	-	1
22.	Peptic Ulcer ...	...	...	...	...	2	-
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1	-
24.	Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver...	...	...	...	...	1	1
26.	Other Liver Diseases	...	...	...	...	-	1
27.	Other Digestive	...	...	...	...	3	4
28.	Nephritis ...	...	...	...	...	2	2
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	-	1
31.	Congenital causes, etc	...	...	...	...	9	4
32.	Senility...	...	...	...	...	4	15
33.	Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	1	-
34.	Other Violence	...	...	...	...	7	1
35.	Other defined causes	...	...	...	...	9	16
36.	Ill-defined causes...	...	...	...	...	-	1
37.	Diarrhoea (2 years and over)...	...	...	...	...	-	1

Special Causes (included in No. 35)

Small Pox ... ..	-	-
Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-
Polioencephalitis ... ..	-	-



## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### Public Health Staff.

The Public Health Staff of the Council is as indicated on page 3.

### Laboratory Facilities.

As in previous reports.

### Ambulance Facilities.

Prior to the arrangement for infectious cases to be admitted to the Dover Isolation Hospital the Borough's Ambulance stationed at the Hospital in St. Richard's Road, was utilised in the transportation of such cases to our Isolation Hospital.

Accident and non-infectious cases are attended to by either the hand drawn wheeled stretchers or by the St. John Motor Ambulance. This Ambulance is garaged at Messrs. Old's Garage in West Street and is obtainable at comparatively short notice.

Since the outbreak of war both the Borough's Ambulance and that of the St. John's have been co-ordinated within the Ambulance Service of the A.R.P. Organisation.

### Nursing in the Home.

As in previous reports.

### Midwives.

As in previous reports.

### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

As in previous reports.

### Hospitals.

Following upon arrangements being completed for the admission of infectious cases to the Dover Isolation Hospital, it was decided the Council's Isolation Hospital should be re-conditioned and improved so that in the event of the County Scheme for the centralisation of Isolation Hospitals not materialising there would be no difficulty in reverting back to its normal status for the reception and treatment of infectious diseases occurring in the Borough.

As this report goes to print I have now to state that following the improvements being carried out the Hospital has now been closed and the staff dismissed. All infectious cases are to







be treated at the Eastry Rural District Council's Isolation Hospital.

Cases of Small Pox, when notified, are now removed to the Small Pox Hospital at Poulton, in the Dover Area. No use was made of this hospital by Deal during 1939.

The Deal, Walmer and District War Memorial Hospital in London Road was erected in 1924 by voluntary subscriptions, and comprises men's, women's and children's wards, private wards, operating theatre, staff quarters, X-ray and Ophthalmic departments, facilities for radium and radiant heat treatments, electro-therapeutic and massage departments.

Additions by way of Nurses' quarters and an Out-patients Department have proved extremely advantageous in providing for extended accommodation in the general building. The Out-patients Department has been incorporated in the A.R.P. Casualties Organisation as a Fixed First Aid Post, being equipped with hot and cold water and the authorised medical supplies.

#### Health Visitors.

As in previous reports.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water Supply.

As in previous reports.

The output of water supplied to Deal and Walmer is recorded by meters installed at the Waterworks.

The quantity delivered during the twelve months under review was as follows:-

Deal and Walmer... .. 301,591,500 gallons.

This figure gives a daily average of 826,278 gallons.

The supply is constant and the standard of purity is very satisfactory. As a safeguard against the possibility of contamination all water is chlorinated at the sumps by the Chloramine Process.

The areas of Great Mongeham and Sholden are supplied from water mains owned and maintained by the East Kent District Water Company of Snodland. No output figures are available for this particular part of the district.



There are only 27 dwellinghouses in the Borough which are dependent upon well water for their domestic use. These premises are not within reasonable distance of a water main.

Bacteriological sampling of the public water supply is undertaken at frequent periods and includes samples of both un-chlorinated and chlorinated water. These samples are submitted in rotation for examination to:-

The Clinical Research Association, Ltd.,

The Kent County Council.

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

As in previous reports.

That portion of the main drainage scheme which will deal with the Mongeham area, now dependent upon the conservancy system of drainage, was the subject of a Ministry of Health inquiry, held on 20th December, 1938. As the result of this inquiry sanction has been obtained for the necessary loan, but owing to the outbreak of hostilities the whole scheme has had to be shelved.

#### Closet Accommodation.

The approximate number of premises equipped with each type of sanitary convenience in the enlarged Borough is as follows:-

W.C.'s into drainage system ... ..	6442
W.C.'s into Cesspools ... ..	118
Earth Closets or Privvy Middens ... ..	2
Pail Closets including Chemical Closets ...	133

The increase in the last three classes over previous year's figures is due to the larger number of these types of conveniences in houses in the Great Mongeham area added in the Borough in 1935.

No conversions took place during the twelve months under review.

#### Rivers and Streams.

As in previous reports.

#### Public Cleansing.

As in previous reports.

Some 287 sanitary bins have been provided or replaced during the year as the result of a survey of the area.



## Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Your Public Health Staff undertakes the necessary inspections of the district for the purposes provided for by the Public Health Acts, Regulations, Orders and Byelaws in force in force in the Borough and records are kept for reference. Amongst others, the duties include the inspection of factories, workshops, etc., dwellinghouses, farms, dairies and milkshops, slaughterhouses, shops and vehicles, meat and other foods, bakehouses, common lodging-houses, and all places where food is prepared for sale.

### Shops.

During the year no action was necessary regarding the ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences of shops under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

### Camping Sites.

There is only one licensed camping site in the Borough where satisfactory sanitary arrangements and water supply are provided and maintained. The estimated maximum number of campers resident upon the site at one time was 400.

### Smoke Abatement.

No action was found necessary during the year with respect to the omission of smoke from factory or other premises.

### Swimming Baths and Pools.

As in previous reports.

### Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the past year the following action was taken for the eradication of bed bugs:-

#### 1. (a) Houses found infested:

Council Houses	...	...	...	...	13
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	23

#### (b) Houses disinfested:

Council Houses	...	...	...	...	13
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	23

#### 2. Methods employed in disinfesting houses:

(a) By Sulphur, Formalin and Cimex	...	Nil
(b) By Spraying with Insecticide	...	35
(c) By gassing with H.C.N...	...	1











## Schools

As in previous reports.

## Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

As in previous reports.

## HOUSING

As in previous reports.

Building by private enterprise continued until the outbreak of war, but not to the extent of that shown during previous years. The number of new houses erected during 1939, other than by the Council, was 12.

## Housing Statistics.

The following Table shows the total number of dwelling-houses inspected and the result of action taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Act, 1936.

### Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of houses inspected...	559
Number of Inspections made for that purpose	764
Number of Informal Notices served requiring nuisances to be abated	363
Number of Abatement Notices served and complied with	10

### Housing Act, 1936

Number of houses inspected and recorded	27
Number of Inspections made for that purpose	58
Number of Informal Notices served requiring repairs to be carried out (Sec.9.)	16
Number of Statutory Notices served under Sec. 9. and complied with	1

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

The dairies, cowsheds and milkshops in the Borough have been regularly inspected by your Sanitary Inspectors under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Under the provision of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, the following licences were issued by the Council:-

Pasteuriser's Licences	2
Pasteuriser's Supplementary Licences	1
Tuberculin Tested (Cert.) Dealer's Licences	2
Tuberculin Tested Dealer's Licences	-
Accredited Supplementary Licences	1

Five reports were received on the bacteriological examinations of samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk during 1939. Two of these reports shewed that the samples did not satisfy the prescribed standard. The appropriate remedial action was taken



by the Kent County Council.

Four reports received on the bacteriological examinations of Pasteurised Milk shewed the samples to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

The total number of slaughterhouses in Deal and Walmer at the end of 1939 was 10, of which 4 were licensed and 6 were registered.

Frequent visits are made to these slaughterhouses for inspection as to cleanliness, etc., while regular visits are made on slaughtering days to each premises for the purpose of meat inspection.

1536 inspections were made during 1939 of the slaughterhouses, as the result of which the total amount of meat found unfit and subsequently surrendered for destruction was 2 tons 17 cwts. 2 qtrs. 25 lbs.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	647	390	3148	3188
No. inspected	647	363	3084	3172
Whole carcasses condemned	4	nil	nil	1
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	94	nil	5	57
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease	15.15	nil	.1621	1.797

The number of inspections made with respect to other food premises was 2,128.

As the result of these inspections the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered for destruction.

Article	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Tinned Fish ... ..	30	19	2	16
Dog Fish ... ..		1	1	14
Haddocks ... ..		1	3	-
Scollops ... ..				9
Cooked Ham ... ..			1	7
Total	31	3	0	18



Legal proceedings were instituted against a butcher for failure to notify the Council of his intention to slaughter a beast for human consumption as required by Article 8 of the Meat Regulations 1924.

The case was dismissed on the defendant's evidence that the beast was rather wild and likely to cause itself injury and possible damage in the Slaughterhouse.

Adulteration

The following samples were taken and submitted for examination under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 by the Food and Drugs Authority during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1939:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>
Samples of Milk... ..	32
Samples of Spirits and Beers ...	9
Samples of Dry Goods... ..	30
Samples of Drugs ... ..	9
	<u>80</u>

Particulars of Analysis of above samples:-

Reported as genuine ... ..	78
Reported as inferior... ..	2

It is pleasing to report that no case of adulteration was found in the 80 samples which were taken in the year. In the instance of the 2 samples which were reported as inferior, these were milk samples which were only slightly below the required standard of 3% milk fat, and were taken from the same source of supply.

The standard of the foodstuffs in the Borough as far as adulteration is concerned may be regarded as very satisfactory.





PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during the year:-

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
Small Pox... ..	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ... ..	13	7	-
Diphtheria ... ..	28	27	3
Enteric Fever, including Para-Typhoid Fever ...	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	-	-
Pneumonia... ..	1	-	-
Erysipelas ... ..	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	-	-
Malaria ... ..	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	-	-	-
Polio-encephalitis ... ..	1	-	-
Polio-myelitis... ..	1	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	-	-
Totals	50	35	3

Disinfection.

Following the notification of an infectious disease the infected premises are inspected both by myself and by the Sanitary Inspector. This is done for the purpose of tracing, if possible, the source of infection. The patients are removed to the Isolation Hospital, the bedroom and its contents, i.e. bedding and wearing apparel, are fumigated, and the bedding and clothing removed for steam disinfection. Premises where home treatment of the disease has been carried out are similarly treated after the recovery of the patient.

During 1939 the disinfection of 57 rooms and of 43 articles was carried out.

There is no arrangement in the Borough that provides for the cleansing and disinfecting of verminous persons, although such appears to be advisable.





## Examination of Pathological and Bacteriological Specimens.

This service provided by the Kent County Council at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, has, as previously reported, been of valuable assistance to myself and other medical men in this district in the examination of swabs.

### Cancer.

The number of deaths from malignant disease in this area during 1939 was:-

	Males	Females	Total
Deal Borough	13	19	32

This gives a death rate for this disease of:-

For Deal Borough	1.38
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No information is available as to the incidence of cancer at any particular age or in any particular occupation.

### Prevention of Blindness.

Three cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified during the year, but it was not necessary to take action under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### Tuberculosis

It was not necessary to take action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 relating to employees in the milk supply trade, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to hospital.

The following table shows the new cases and mortality relating to tuberculosis during the year 1939:-

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-15	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	5	2	-	4	1	-	-



# BOROUGH OF DEAL

## GENERAL SUMMARY

Population (estimated 1939 for area as now constituted) 23,190

Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books at  
end of 1939 ... .. 6,402

Average number of persons per house... .. 3.6

Area... .. 2,917 acres.

Density ... .. 7.9 persons per acre.

								Deal	England and Wales.
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Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.64	15.0
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Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population								
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Crude	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.94	12.1
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Adjusted	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.74	
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Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births							41.34	50.0
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Live Births.	Males...	...	...	...	204	
	Females	...	...	...	181	
					<u>385</u>	

Deaths.	Males...	...	...	...	137	
	Females	...	...	...	163	
					<u>300</u>	

Excess of Births over Deaths ... .. 85

Rateable Value, end of 1939, ... .. £159,978

Product of Penny Rate, end of 1939... .. £615

